

PATENT
USSN 10/087,473
Docket 090/003c

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. *(Currently amended)* A method for producing a population of cells that is at least 75% homogeneous for a particular cell type, comprising containing 2% that express tyrosine hydroxylase, the method comprising:
 - a) providing a suspension of undifferentiated human embryonic stem (hES) cells that is free of feeder cells;
 - b) plating and culturing the suspended cells on a solid surface so that they differentiate without forming embryoid bodies; and
 - c) culturing the plated cells in a medium containing a TGF- β Superfamily Antagonist; and
 - d) harvesting differentiated a population of neural cells from the solid surface, wherein at least 75% of the harvested cell population is homogeneous for said cell type 2% of the cells express tyrosine hydroxylase.
2. *(Currently amended)* A method for producing a population of cells that is at least 75% homogeneous for a particular cell type, comprising containing 2% that express tyrosine hydroxylase, the method comprising:
 - a) culturing undifferentiated hES cells on obtaining a population of hES cells plated onto a solid surface in an environment essentially free of feeder cells;
 - b) changing medium used to culture the cells to a medium containing a TGF- β Superfamily Antagonist, so that they the cells differentiate before there is overgrowth or formation of colonies; and
 - d) harvesting differentiated a population of neural cells from the solid surface, wherein at least 75% of the harvested cell population is homogeneous for said cell type 2% of the cells express tyrosine hydroxylase.
3. CANCELLED
4. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 1, wherein the hES cells are plated on a solid surface without any extracellular matrix.
5. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 1, wherein the solid surface comprises a polycation.
6. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 5, wherein the polycation is polyornithine or polylysine.

PATENT
USSN 10/087,473
Docket 090/003c

7 to 8. *CANCELLED*

9. *(Original)* The method of claim 2, wherein the changed medium is essentially free of fibroblast growth factor.

10. *(Original)* The method of claim 2, wherein the changed medium contains Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF) or Neutrotrophin-3 (NT-3).

11. *(Currently amended)* The method of claim 2, wherein the changed medium contains TGF-β Superfamily Antagonist is noggin or follistatin.

12. *CANCELLED*

13 to 15. *CANCELLED*

16. *CANCELLED*

17. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 1, wherein the differentiated cells are neurons or glial cells identifiable as neural cells by the criteria that at least 50% of the cells express polysialylated NCAM, at least 50% of the cells express β-tubulin III, and at least 10% of the cells express microtubule-associated protein 2 (MAP-2).

18. *(Original)* The method of claim 17, wherein at least ~10% of the cells staining positive for MAP-2 are also positive for tyrosine hydroxylase.

19 to 22. *CANCELLED*

23 to 28. *CANCELLED*

PATENT
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Docket 090/003c

29. *(Currently amended)* The method of claim 28 claim 1, further comprising combining the cells of claim 28 with a test compound, determining any phenotypic or metabolic changes in the cell that result from contact with the compound, and correlating the change with cellular toxicity or modulation.
30. *(New)* The method of claim 1, wherein the TGF- β Superfamily Antagonist is noggin or follistatin.
31. *(New)* The method of claim 1, wherein the medium further contains a neurotrophin.
32. *(New)* The method of claim 31 wherein the neurotrophin is neurotrophin 3 (NT-3) or brain derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF).